

PLAIN TALK

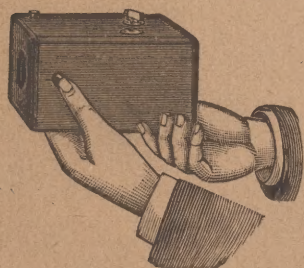
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VOL. X.—No. 73.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1891.

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PLAIN TALK.

VOL. X.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1891.

No. 73.

PERRY'S LOBSTER CATCH, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

By JOHN C. AUSTIN.

"THERE'S a storm coming up, father; don't you think we had better get our traps in?"

"Yes, my boy; get the boat out, and I'll be with you presently," replied the old fisherman, rousing up from his warm seat by the hearth fire.

Perry Compton needed no second bidding, for there was no time to be lost. He hurried to the cove with a pair of heavy, awkward-looking oars, and shoved the deep, sharp fisherman's boat down over the sand to the water's edge.

"I wonder if we will get back again before the storm breaks?" he said to himself, anxiously eyeing the mass of dense black clouds which spread across the eastern horizon. "I hope father will be down soon, for it'll be dangerous to go out unless we go now."

He looked up toward the cottage, and, much to his relief, saw the elder Compton hurrying down the path. "Shove off, Perry," said the fisherman, jumping into the boat and grasping one of the massive oars. A quick, running push sent the boat clear of the shore, and Perry leaped in and shipped the other oar.

A few powerful strokes brought them

over his shoulder at the clouded horizon. The ocean was still enough now, except for the strong currents that prevailed along that part of the coast, but it would become a boiling sea when the clouds broke and let loose the fury of the elements. It was no mere catpaw that was coming—that even a countryman could see.

One by one the traps were visited and the lobsters removed and taken on board, where they lay clawing and



"HURRY UP, FATHER; THE STORM IS ALMOST UPON US!"



"THE HARDY RESCUERS PULLED WITH A WILL."

to the narrow passage, between high overhanging rocks, which marked the entrance to Compton's Cove.

Perry said nothing as they rowed out upon the Atlantic itself, but he felt very uneasy as he cast frequent glances

snapping viciously in their fruitless attempts to escape.

"One more, and we're done, my boy," remarked the fisherman, as he baited a trap and dropped it overboard again. "And glad enough I'll be to get home."

Perry made no reply. He rowed silently toward the float which indicated the location of the last trap.

During all this time he had watched the ominous clouds, which were no longer bordering the horizon, but were almost above them. The water was yet as still as the ocean could be expected to be, but that did not in any degree lessen his increasing uneasiness. At last he could keep silent no longer.

"Hurry up, father; the storm is almost upon us, and the boat will surely be swamped if we get caught out here," he urged, excitedly.

Compton looked around, and an expression of alarm spread over his face. He hurriedly dropped the trap overboard and seized an oar.

"Pull for all you're worth," he exclaimed. "We'll have a hard pull to make the cove before the squall comes down on us. I didn't think it was so near as that."

Silently they rowed for the shore, fully a half-mile dis-

tant, with the eddying current sweeping hard against them in their aim for the narrow entrance to Compton's Cove.

Usually they rowed in by a roundabout course, which eased them from this current, but time was now too precious. Every muscle was strained to the utmost in the attempt to reach the little harbor of safety.

Before half the distance had been covered, the storm broke around them furiously. The wind blew hard, lashing the water into monster white-caps that momentarily threatened to capsize them.

"It's no use to try to get back into the cove," shouted Compton, hardly able to make himself heard above the roar of the wind, the waves and the breakers. "We'd be smashed on the rocks, sure. Our only chance is to make the beach at the station, and run our chances of getting in."

Perry comprehended the idea in an instant. Both bent to the oars with renewed energy, well knowing that their one desperate chance lay in gaining the low sandy beach a mile beyond.

One thing in their favor, the current, which had opposed their efforts to reach the cove, now swept them on in the right direction, and their frail craft crept nearer and nearer to the goal. At length they were just outside the breakers.

"Pull in!—pull in!" yelled Compton, as the boat danced like a cockleshell on the crest of a huge wave.

An instant after, another wave overtook them and upset the boat leaving them struggling almost hopelessly in the angry surf. Perry was dimly conscious of trying instinctively to swim but a great wave hurled him heavily against something, and he knew no more.

* * * * *

"Good enough! The lad's coming around all right, after all, Compton."

Perry opened his eyes. "Where am I?" he asked, looking at his father, who was leaning over him.

Before the latter could answer him, Perry's eye caught another familiar face.

"Why, Captain Carter, I must be in the life-saving station! How did I come here?"

"Don't you remember going out this morning to clear your lobster pots?"

"Oh, yes; and the storm came up," he replied, as the recollection came to him. "We rowed ashore here; I remember it now. But where are the lobsters?"

"Back in their native element, I reckon," laughed the grizzled old life-saver. "It wasn't much rowing you did, though. You were just thumped down on the beach like so much driftwood; and if Adams hadn't caught you, the undertow would have carried you down to Davy's locker."

Perry looked puzzled for a moment. Then it came to him—the pull for the beach, the capsizing of the boat, the struggle in the breakers and the blow that knocked him senseless.

He threw off the wraps that had been carefully tucked about him and jumped to his feet.

"Better keep still for a while, my boy," advised the Captain. "You had a narrow escape—not even a bruise; but a fight like that will make any man as weak as a kitten, and you'd better not stir about much yet."

"I'm all right," replied Perry. "I'm a bit hungry—that's all. Where is Adams?"

"He's out on patrol duty up the beach now. It's almost nightfall now, and it's going to be a nasty night."

Perry concluded to take the Captain's advice; and after satisfying his appetite with some food that the latter brought him, he "turned in" again.

He slept as soundly as only a tired boy can, until he was awakened by a shake.

"Wake up, my lad; there's work for you to do."

Perry roused himself. "What's the matter?" he asked, sleepily.

"There's a vessel stranded on the beach, half a mile down," responded Captain Carter. "Are you strong enough to help us?"

The young fisherman was thoroughly awake now, and he leaped from the cot vigorously.

"Of course I am, Captain—just as good as new."

"Sure of it? Come along, then; but wrap up well, or

there won't be much left of you by morning. There's a hurricane blowing, and the night is none of the warmest."

A moment later they joined the crew, and the life-car was hurriedly pulled out of the station and along the beach on its ponderous truck toward the scene of the disaster.

The outlines of the distressed vessel could hardly be discerned through the dense darkness. She was evidently a brig; but how many people were on board of her was a matter of speculation.

It took but a moment to prepare for the perilous trip in the life-boat, after the crew had reached the point nearest the brig.

"Perry I want you to stay here and take care of these things," said Captain Carter, as his men took from the boat a life-line, gun and apparatus, with other articles that might be needed. "Your father will come with us."

A receding wave gave an opportunity to launch the life-boat.

"Ready, boys!" cried the Captain.

Quickly they ran the boat into the water, and before another breaker struck the sand they were struggling hard to get beyond the outer breakers.

For ten minutes they battled determinedly with the powerful waves, gaining a little now and then, but losing more as each mountain of water struck them.

Suddenly the boat was caught and whirled around into the trough of the sea. In a moment it was thrown violently back upon the beach again. By little short of a miracle the brave Captain and his crew were unhurt.

Again they made the attempt, but they were again thrown back, after a hopeless struggle, and then they abandoned the effort to reach the wreck.

Daylight was beginning to show dimly through the heavy black clouds as the captain made ready the gun to send the life-line out to the brig. In a marvelously short time the gun was fired, and the heavy shot was hurled through the air, dragging after it a slender but strong rope, which uncoiled itself from a reel on the shore.

An instant more, and the life-crew gave a cheer as it lodged in the rigging of the vessel. It was now light enough to see that men were making fast the line.

In a few moments the breeches buoy was on its way to the wreck, where it secured a precious cargo of living freight.

The hardy rescuers pulled with a will as the buoy started shoreward again.

The two occupants, a man and a boy, were surrounded by eager questioners as they reached the sandy beach, almost exhausted by cold and exposure.

They proved to be Swedes, knowing little or nothing of English, and the only information they could give was that the name of the vessel was the Mohican, bound for New York. Captain Carter hurried them to the station in charge of two of his men.

Meanwhile, the breeches buoy had been hauled out again over the rope to the brig. All hands were watching it in silence, interrupted only by the continued creak, creak of the portable windlass, as the rope attached to the buoy slowly unwound itself.

Soon it reached the wreck, and the watchers on shore waited for some one to get in it.

A minute passed; then two, three, five; and still no movement on the vessel, though it could be dimly seen through the haze that some people were still up in the cross-trees.

Every man in the little group of life-savers waited, wonderingly, for some sign from the wreck.

"What can be the trouble?" queried the Captain, anxiously bearing his glass upon the brig.

"The miserable cowards!" he exclaimed a moment later, angrily. "They've left two women out there—tied to the mast, too. Bring in the buoy again, boys—quick now; there's no time to be lost."

Quickly the men grasped the buoy rope and "ran away" with it. In a few minutes, which seemed like hours, the buoy reached the beach.

"Who'll go out and send the women in?" asked the Captain.

Perry Compton stood nearest him.

"Send me," he said, stepping forward.

"All right; jump in—quick, now," was the reply, and almost before he knew it, Perry was a hundred yards from the beach—now above the surging waves, now half submerged in their foamy caps, and thoroughly drenched to the skin.

Upon reaching the ill-fated brig, he clambered up out of his secure but uncomfortable seat and gained a footing on the crosstrees. The two unfortunates were so chilled through by the severe exposure to which they had been subjected through the cold and stormy night that Perry had almost to lift the elder woman by main strength into the breeches buoy, after cutting the ropes that bound her. It was no easy task, with only a narrow, slippery board, inclined heavily by the listing of the vessel, for a foothold, but the brave boy succeeded in accomplishing it successfully.

Signalling to those on shore to pull in the buoy, he took his position on the seaward side of the stump of the broken mast. On the other side was the younger of the two women—a girl, evidently still in her teens.

She proved to be the captain's daughter, and the half-unconscious woman on her way to the shore was her mother. She told Perry that her father, his mate and two seamen had been carried away with a boat they had tried to launch, just after the brig grounded. The man who had first reached the shore was a foremast hand, and the boy was the cook. These two had helped the women up to the crosstrees, and had secured them there, only to desert them when the opportunity for a rescue presented itself.

Presently the buoy came back, and Perry cut the girl loose and helped her into it. Off towards shore she went, leaving him the only living being on the wreck.

Down below him the furious waves were sweeping over the brig incessantly. The mast shook like a tree in the wind as the mountains of water dashed over the deck, which had been swept clean of every movable object. Even the bulwarks were gone. It was plain that the brig was a total wreck, for she was firmly bedded on the shallow bar, and would soon be broken up by the fury of the elements.

He wondered what had become of the skipper and mate and the two seamen. The chances for their escape from the merciless waters were not one in a thousand; but then, had not he and his father both reached the shore after the overturning of their dory in this very same storm, not twenty-four hours before? He was thinking of the cowardly fellows who had been the first to come ashore from the brig, leaving the women to their fate, when the buoy came out again to take him back.

Glad he was to jump into its uncomfortable seat, for an hour at the masthead of the wreck, after the soaking he had received while passing over and through the breakers, had chilled him through, and he longed for the warmth of the fire at the station.

"Well done, my lad!" shouted Captain Carter, approvingly, as the breeches buoy reached the shore. A dozen willing hands lifted Perry from the buoy, among them Adams, who had the previous afternoon rescued him from the undertow.

Perry tried to thank him as they hurried up the beach toward the station, leaving the Captain and two of the men to gather up the apparatus and bring it back. The rescued ones had preceded them, under care of two of the men.

"Why, that's nothing, my boy!" laughed the life-saver, good-naturedly. "I'd'a' done that much for a box of fruit or a bag of Rio coffee."

And as they reached the station he added: "But you didn't much expect that your lobster hunt yesterday was goin' to make a full-fledged life-saving man out o' you, did you?"

The Mozart Prize.

A CONSIDERABLE degree of interest was manifested in the awarding of this prize, and by vote of subscribers it goes to "P. F. W., Walter F. Pike, St. Jacobs, Ill. The special book offered in this connection goes to Mrs. T. W. McClelland, Lexington, Ky., whose postal card vote was received on August 11th, at 1:30 P. M., the Lexington postmark being August 9th, 10 P. M. The majority voted in this order. First, P. F. W.; Second, H. L. E.; Third, S. H. R. By a curious typographical error the date of Mozart's marriage was twice given in the August issue as 1872, instead of 1782.

THE

American Archaeological Association.

President, A. F. BERLIN, Allentown, Pa.

Vice-President, Dr. D. S. MCARTHUR, Lacrosse, Wis.

Secretary, A. B. FARNHAM, Bellingham, D. C.

Treasurer, E. J. SHERIDAN, 205 Adelphi Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Librarian, CHAS. A. PERKINS, Wakefield, Mass.

Exchange Superintendent, J. R. NISSELEY, Ada, Ohio.

Counterfeit Detector,

Board of Trustees, JOS. WIGGLESWORTH, Wilmington, Del.; E. J. ROCKWOOD, 10 Coral Street, Worcester, Mass.; G. L. FANCHER, West Winsted, Conn.

Secretary's Report.

I HAVE the pleasure this month to report the following:

NEW MEMBER.

No. 48. H. W. Williamson, New Galilee, Beaver Co., Pa.

APPLICATIONS.

Thad Surber, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

References, Jas. L. Calwell, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.; Chas. E. Hilleary, Basic City, Va.

A. B. Hoover, P. O. Box No. 5, Paola, Kan.

References, V. B. Allee, Paola, Kan., Miami Co. National Bank, Paola, Kan.

The resignation of Fred. Rowell, 95 Atlantic St., Stamford, Conn., was received some time since and would have been reported before but it was in some manner mislaid.

The vacation season is about over and probably many choice relics have been gathered by the collectors of the A. A. A.

Now is the time to secure more applications. Those this month are credited to Messrs. L. V. McWhorter and V. B. Allee. The official editor will furnish sample copies of PLAIN TALK on application and will also be glad to receive any articles on archaeology which may be contributed.

A. B. FARNHAM, Secretary A. A. A.

Another Interesting Collection.

HAVE just read in your most excellent paper a published letter from Anna M. Fleury, the title of which was "An Interesting Collection." I have a collection and will tell you of some of the specimens. My collection consists principally of United States stone, arrow and spear heads of which I have more than six thousand. I have them from most every state and territory, every shape and form. Have one fine white spear from Berry Co. Mich., 6¼ inches long. Have three hundred of those very small Oregon points made of jasper, obsidian, onyx, topaz and different kinds of agate. Have my specimens in cases 20x24 inches inside, lined with mottled plush. I put about two-hundred arrows and spears in each case, put all of those found in each state in separate cases. In addition to these cases have two large walnut cabinets. They contain minerals of every description all properly labelled. Have polished agates of many kinds from Brazil and Rocky Mountains. Have one slab agate 4x4 inches, beautiful transparent black and white, centre crystalized. Have one beautiful large geode sawed in half and polished, also agatized wood, polished and in rough. I have shells large and small from all parts of the world. The most beautiful ones I have came from the South Sea Islands. Have a fine collection of the famous doubly terminated crystals from Herkimer Co., N. Y. Also 200 from the crystal banks near Elsworth, O.

I have fossil nuts from Dry Run, Youngstown, O., as perfect as when growing on the trees probably three thousand years ago. Have geodes of every description from the size of a walnut to that of a man's head. I have also 150 different species of foreign and native woods, all polished and many other things, including a large specimen of cluster crystals from Hot Springs, Ark. Would like to hear from others what they have.

H. W. WILLIAMSON.

New Galilee, Beaver Co., Pa.

I N each school in the land PLAIN TALK wants a representative. Some bright boy or girl may have the paper free of all charge, and may also add a few dollars a year to his or her pocket money. Who speaks first?

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

EDITED BY
MRS. N. F. PERKINS, OCEANUS, N. Y.

Fancy Work.

FAN LACE.

MAKE a chain of eighteen stitches.

First row—Two d. c. in fifth stitch of chain, one ch., two d. c. in same, ch. five, one d. c. in tenth stitch of chain, ch. three, one d. c., in same, ch. five, two d. c., in fifteenth stitch of chain, one ch., two d. c. in same, ch. five, and catch with slip stitch in the end of foundation chain, turn. Second row—Three ch., eleven d. c. in the first space, ch. five, make a shell by putting two d. c. in ch., ch. one and two d. c. in same, ch. four, eight d. c. in ch. three of last row, ch. four. Make a shell, one d. c. in last stitch, turn. Third row—three ch., shell in shell, ch. three, one d. c. between eight d. c. of last row, with one ch. between each three ch., sh. in sh., one d. c. between each d. c. in scal-



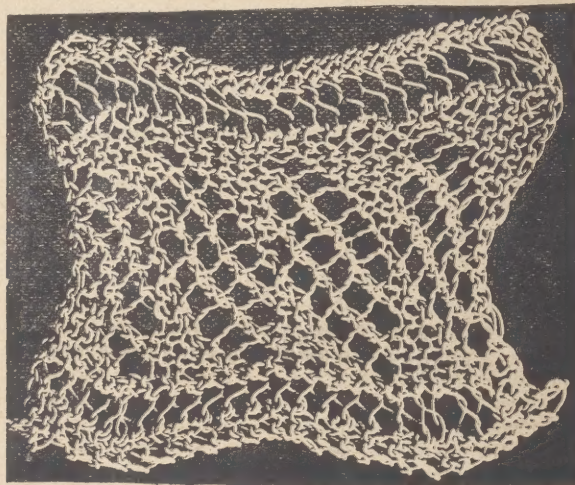
lop. No chain between. Fourth row—Three ch., one d. c. and one ch. between each d. c. in scallop, sh. in sh., ch. two, three d. c. under the ch., one in fan, and so on till you have filled all of the one ch.'s with three d. c.'s, making no chain between, ch. two, sh. in sh., one d. c. in the end. Fifth row—Ch. three, sh. in sh., ch. five, one d. c. in middle of fan, ch. three, one d. c. in same, ch. five, sh. in sh., ch. two, and one d. c. with two ch. between each of the d. c. in scallop, turn. Sixth row—Three ch. and one d. c. with two ch. between each of the d. c. of scallop, sh. in sh., ch. four, eight d. c. under chain three of last row, ch. four, sh. in sh., one d. c. in end and turn. Seventh row—Ch. three, sh. in sh., three ch., one d. c., making one ch. between each of eight d. c., ch. three, sh. in sh., three d. c. and one ch. between each d. c. in scallop, turn. Eighth row—Ch. five, catch with slip stitch under ch. one in scallop, ch. five, catch with slip stitch under second ch., and so continue through the scallop, sh. in sh., ch. two, three d. c. under the one ch. of last row and so on till you have filled them all, ch. two, sh. in sh., one d. c. in end, turn. Ninth row—Ch. three, sh. in sh., ch. five, one d. c. in the middle of fan, ch. three, one d. c. in same, ch. five, sh. in sh., ch. six,

catch in middle of chain five of last row with a slip stitch and so on through the scallop, turn. Tenth row—Ch. seven and catch in middle of ch. six of last row and so on through the scallop, sh. in sh., ch. four, eight d. c. under chain three of last row, ch. four, sh. in sh., one d. c. in end, turn. Eleventh row—Ch. three, sh. in sh., three ch., one d. c., making one ch. between each of eight d. c., ch. three, sh. in sh., ch. eight, catch in middle of ch. seven of last row with a slip stitch and so on through the scallop, turn. Twelfth row—Ch. nine and catch in middle of ch. eight of last row and so on through the scallop, sh. in sh., ch. two, three d. c., under ch. one of last row and so on till you have filled them all, ch. two, sh. in sh., one d. c. in end, turn, repeat from first row.

MARGARET LOREO.

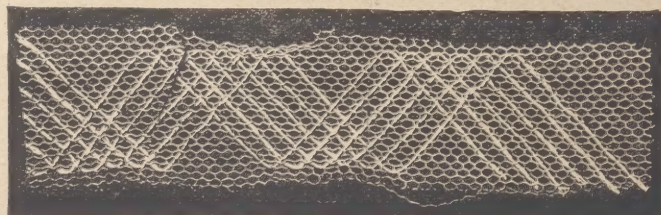
MAPLEWOOD INSERTION.

CAST on twenty-one stitches knit across plain. First row—K. three, o., n., k. one, o., n., o., n., o., n., k. five, o., n., o., n., k. two. Second Row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one. Third row—K. three, n., k. two, o., n., o., n., o., n., k. four, o., n., k. two. Fourth row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one. Fifth row—K. three, o., n., k. three, o., n., o., n., o.,



n., k. three, o., n., k. two. Sixth row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one. Seventh row—K. three, o., n., k. four, o., n., o., n., o., n., purl two, o., n., k. two. Eighth row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one. Ninth row—K. three, o., n., k. five, o., n., o., n., o., n., k. one, o., n., k. two. Tenth row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one. Eleventh row—K. three, o., n., k. six, o., n., o., n., o., n., o., n., k. two. Twelfth row—K. three, o., n., k. thirteen, o., n., k. one.

MRS. FULLER

DARNED LACE INSERTION.
(Requested.)

THE foundation of this work is white web net and it may be purchased any width desired and may be worked with white or colored silk.

MARGARET LOREO.

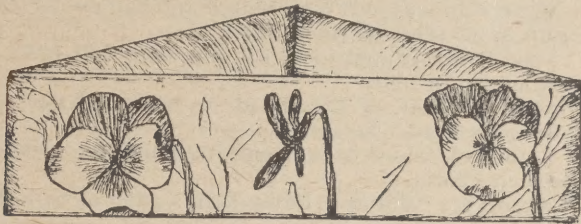
A PA AND MA CLOTH.

MATERIALS, two yards of momie cloth or butcher's linen, twenty-four inches wide, three spools of wash silk for fruit, one scarlet, one Indian red, one dark brown, three spools for leaves, one light and one dark green and one

white. Run a narrow line of hemstitching above a three-inch hem. Stamp clusters of cherries with one or two leaves attached to a sprig here and there over the cloth. Outline the cherries and fill with Kensington stitch, taking care to shade nicely; do the stems in satin stitch, button hole leaves in two shades of green and vein with white silk. Dainty crocheted mats in white edged with green wash silk look well with this pretty cloth.

A DAINY BOX FOR RINGS AND THINGS.

EITHER purchase or make a three cornered box. They may be purchased at any fancy goods shop or made from pasteboard. Line bottom with cotton wadding. Perfume with strong violet sachet powder, line with heavy yellow satten; this lining is fastened or sewed on an inch from the top of box on outside making small folds in corn-



ers and not fastened or sewed at bottom. Paste on a strip of paper width of box to cover up stitches, then sew band of inch and a half white satin ribbon all around box outside of the paper. On two sides paint violets, on third side the words "Rings and Things."

SMALL TRAY CLOTH.

THIS is just the right size for a small tray, used for serving a chance caller a cup of cocoa, plate of cake and fruit. It is made from a fifteen inch square of linen momie cloth. Threads are drawn for a two inch fringe. Knot fringe



with single knot in strands of twenty. Allow space of one inch, draw forty threads, which give a quarter inch space for drawn work knotting; in each corner make a small cobweb. Stamp and outline with red wash silk a large bunch of grapes.

HELEN HUSSEY.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The readers of PLAIN TALK are invited to write letters, ask questions of general interest on fancy work or housekeeping. Send directions of lace and fancy work.

Discouraging Talent at Home.

I WONDER if the mothers of our land realize the extent to which this is carried on all about them—yes in their own homes perhaps. Where is there a mother who would not feel shocked if told that she had blighted the future of her son or daughter? Would not her defense be: "Has it not been my greatest ambition to see them famous—or at

least successful in some honorable undertaking?" "Have I not given them every advantage that money and opportunity afforded?" Yes, dear mother you have placed the cup to their lips, and when full of anticipation of the sweets just on the brink but still within reach, you all unconsciously withdraw it, and the opportunity is gone, perhaps forever. While they are infants you listen to their baby prattle; sympathize with them in their little troubles, laugh with them over a toy and plan new amusements for them. As they grow older they plan for themselves, and though they are older, they are your children still; and if they find you are not still all sympathy, they grow shy, and listen for some word of approval or disapproval. Upon these thoughtless words too often hangs the fate of your child. Why do the young people leave the home nest as soon as they have determined upon a trade or profession? They have been discouraged at home. If you ask a young man, why he is going away, the reply is almost certain to be: "O, I can't do anything here, where everybody has known me since I was born; they just laugh at a fellow if he does try to be somebody." How often do we hear mothers speak disparagingly of others before their children. Such expressions as, "The idea John Jones studying medicine," or "Ben Scott studying law," (mentioning the name of some half wit) will be running for President next." Perhaps these boys were especially fitted for the profession they had chosen, but they were home boys." Do you ever think how these expressions may kill the fond ambition, aspiration and hope safely locked within the breast of your son? Yesterday he was building castles of success, fame and fortune; to-day he is saying: "It is no use, a fellow can't do any good at home and I have not the money to go away." I once noticed an expression of mute despair flit over the face of a bright boy as his mother remarked of one of his classmates who was studying law: "He would better go to hoeing corn, he would make more of a show at that than law." It was weeks before I saw him again. At last an opportunity arrived and I determined to find out the trouble. "I suppose you have finished school and decided upon an occupation," I remarked. "For the present," he replied, half reluctantly, "though I had hoped to continue for awhile." "Have you not something in view?" "I don't know as I have now. I have always wanted to be a surgeon, but there's no use trying here and I can't afford to go away to study. A man can't serve two masters very well and if I study I can't do much else, and the town would say, "Goodness sakes! look at that lazy Bill Ellis cooped up with his bones!" The attempt at a jest was a failure. It showed too plainly the deep wound made by discouraging words at home. "You see it's hard for a fellow to weather through, without he has plenty of money. Then they'll say, "If it was not for his money his talent would not set the river on fire." Do speak kindly, encouragingly, mothers, and ask others to do so.

ALTA L. LYON-IRONS.

Our Cook Book.

WILL not each reader of PLAIN TALK send in her best recipe?

HOT WATER SPONGE CAKE.

Beat the yolks of six eggs and two cups of sugar to a froth. Also beat the whites to a stiff froth. Add the juice of half a lemon to the yolks and sugar, then add half cup of boiling water. Next the whites and last of all two cups of flour into which a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder has been mixed. Mix quickly and bake in two sheets for half an hour in a moderate oven.

BANANA CAKE.

Two and one-half cups of flour, two heaping teaspoonfuls of Royal Baking Powder, one cup of sugar, one whole egg, and yolks of three, piece of butter, size of egg. Bake in jelly tins.

FILING.—Beat the whites of the eggs stiff, adding a cup of powdered sugar. Slice six bananas or enough to cover bottom layer of cake; put part of frosting over the bananas, put layer of cake on top and frost plain.

JENNIE BAKER.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS DEPARTMENT.

This department is devoted to the interests and welfare of the Sons of Veterans and Ladies' Aid Societies of the United States of America.
 Edited by Edgar D. Melville, (of Camp 239, Penna. Div., S. V. U. S. A.) 925 Up-and Street, Chester, Pa., to whom all communications relating to this department should be sent.

PENNSYLVANIA—DELAWARE COUNTY.

Edgar D. Melville, who was elected captain of Elias B. Eckfeldt Camp, No. 239, in place of John L. Van Tine, resigned, was installed on Friday evening, July 10th, by Past Captain Frank Gray.

Edward Burk, as Chaplain, and Frank T. Lamey, as First Sergeant, were duly installed by the new Captain.

Charles L. Oaks was elected a member of Camp Council in place of Captain Edgar D. Melville, resigned.

Past Captain Charles A. Quinby, formerly of Chester, but now of Media, who is an "old-timer" and is one of the few who helped organize Eckfeldt Camp, was in attendance on the evening of July 10th for the first time in several months.

On Friday evening July 17th, member of camp council-elect Charles L. Oaks was duly installed by Captain Edgar D. Melville.

On Tuesday, July 28th, an excursion was given to Cape May, N. J., by Camp 239, the net proceeds of which will amount to about twenty-five dollars. This amount is considered a fair profit, considering the large number of excursions given this season by the various local organizations.

First Sergeant Frank T. Lamey, of Camp 239, has been appointed Junior Aid-de-Camp of Delaware County.

HISTORY OF JOHN B. ROBINSON CAMP, NO. 28, SONS OF VETERANS, DIVISION OF PENNSYLVANIA, CHESTER, PA.

Past Captain Charles A. Quinby, besides being one of the prime movers in the organization of Elias B. Eckfeldt Camp, No. 239, was also, with Captain John Robinson, instrumental in perfecting the organization of John B. Robinson Camp, No. 28, a colored society, whose prospects for a successful career seems bright.

The Camp is named in honor of Delaware County's present Congressman.

Camp 28 was mustered in on the evening of August 19th, 1890.

Benjamin Harris was elected Captain. He is now serving a second term.

The present official list is as follows: Benjamin Harris, Captain; John Williams, First Lieutenant; John Dutton, Second Lieutenant; Silas Potts, Charles Johnson and Samuel Rothwell, members of Camp Council; Silas Potts, Chaplain; John C. Harris, First Sergeant; Robert Anderson, Quartermaster Sergeant; Charles H. Johnson, Color Sergeant; Josh Johnson, Sergeant of the Guard; George Hall, Principal Musician; Alonza Stewart, Corporal of the Guard; William Hall, Camp Guard; Samuel Rothwell, Picket Guard.
 E. D. M.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.

At Rest.

On Wednesday, July 15th, 1891, the Brothers of General John A. Koltes Camp, No. 228, had a sad duty to perform; that of burying their First Lieutenant, John Donovan, who died on Sunday night, July 12th, 1891, at half-past eleven o'clock, after many weeks of suffering.

The Camp, twenty-five men, under command of Captain Albert N. Schickle, Lieutenant A. Wesley Weikel, and the "Guards," twenty men, (under arms), commanded by Captain Jacob Myers, Lieutenants Fred Reger and Harry J. Snyder, after forming at headquarters, Keystone Hall, 835 N. Second Street, headed by the Diligent Fife and Drum Corps, proceeded to the residence of the deceased Lieutenant's parents, Almond and Ann Streets, where services were held.

At the conclusion of the services, after silently filing past the coffin, which was draped with the United States flag, and on which lay his cap and sword, and taking a last sorrowful look at their late comrade, the six pall bearers, Captain Albert N. Schickle, Lieutenants A. Wesley Weikel, Fred. Reger and Harry J. Snyder, First Sergeant Chas. H. W. Schmidt and Quarter-Master Sergeant Fred F. Bissmann, placed the remains in the waiting hearse, and proceeded to

Greenmount Cemetery, where the interment took place; Privates Doran, Kruger, Young and Pomeroy having been detailed as a guard of honor.

The ceremonies at the grave were conducted entirely by the Gen. John A. Koltes Camp, No. 228, and were very solemn and impressive.

Lieutenant Donovan was a good, earnest worker for the Camp, made many friends, but no enemies, and by his death Camp 228 has sustained a loss that will be felt and mourned for a long time. Yours in F. C. and L.,

A. WESLEY WEIKEL,
 Second Lieutenant Camp 228.

JEFFERSON COUNTY.

The Second Annual Field Encampment of the Clarion and Jefferson Association, held at Reynoldsville, on 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, was a grand success.

Camp 108 was well represented and had one of the most comfortable tents on the ground.

The Third Annual Field Encampment will meet at New Bethlehem, in 1892.

Brother Wolf, of Camp 142, is requested not to forget "the pass word" hereafter.

Camp 36, knows how to entertain and the boys appreciate their efforts.

Camp 142 "did up" Camp 36 in a game of ball. Score 10 to 8, favor of Camp 142.

Camp 85 has a jolly crowd of boys. We hope to meet them all at New Bethlehem in 1892.

Camp 23 always turn out to any thing like an encampment and Reynoldsville was no exception.

Captain H. G. Mekring, of Camp 145, got President, and it is reported that a pretty little blue eyed girl got the Captain.
 W. T. H.

PENNSYLVANIA LADIES' AIDS—AID 16, OF CHESTER.

Aid 16 have arranged to give an excursion to Lincoln Park, N. J., on Saturday, August 22nd, the net proceeds of which will be given to Elias B. Eckfeldt Camp, No. 239, to help the members in their earnest efforts to recover from the Camp's recent financial loss.

At a meeting of the Aid on Tuesday evening, August 4th, Edgar D. Melville, Captain of Elias B. Eckfeldt Camp, was appointed Judge Advocate, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John L. Van Tine.

BUGLE NOTES.

Mrs. Mary Wenrich, President of the Ladies' Aid Society of General E. D. Baker Camp, No. 277, of Philadelphia, Pa., attended the Sons of Veterans' Camp-Fire in Gettysburg, on the evening of July 3rd.

On Thursday evening, July 16th, in Philadelphia, the second largest camp of Sons of Veterans to start in Pennsylvania was mustered in, and will be known as Post 2, Camp 299. The following officers were installed: William M. Read, organizer, formerly of Anna M. Ross Camp, No. 1, Captain; James L. Selfridge, Jr., First Lieutenant; John B. Mearns, Second Lieutenant; Hampton S. Thomas, Jr., Chaplain; J. H. Forshey, First Sergeant; Furman Smith, Quarter-Master Sergeant; Henry J. Upp, Sergeant of the guard; E. T. Severs, Color Sergeant; J. H. Bowers, Corporal of the Guard; Joseph Eichman, Camp Guard; and W. D. Freyer, Picket Guard. A large delegation of Post 2 was present, and everything looks favorable toward a bright and successful career.

Brother Edwin B. Swift, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who was elected President of the National Amateur Press Association at its sixteenth annual convention, held at Philadelphia in July, is Sergeant of the Guard of Camp 455, of Cincinnati, and is serving a second term in this capacity.

Brother Swift was born in 1859. He joined Camp 455 in October, 1890.

For nine years and a half he has been practicing dentistry. He started out in business with only \$30, of which \$13 was borrowed, and now owns his own home and is pretty well fixed.

Our Flag, Cincinnati's local G. A. R. paper, contains a Sons of Veterans department under his charge.

The members of the National Amateur Press Association have cause to feel proud of their worthy chief officer.

A word now in regards to the Camp, of which Brother Swift is a member.

It was organized in August, 1890, and started with about twelve recruits. It now contains thirty-three members.

It is reported that this Camp have the finest hall in the State, and that it is "the" society camp.

Camp 455 can boast of nine Past Captains, and also, the Major of the Ohio Division belongs to this camp—a fact to feel proud of.

During the first two weeks of November, General E. D. Baker Camp, No. 277, of Philadelphia, Pa., will hold a bazaar in Lincoln Hall, Broad Street and Fairmount Avenue. Mrs. Mary H. Wenrich, President of the Ladies' Auxiliary Corps, will assist the enterprise.

In the great parade of Grand Army men in Detroit, on August 4th, 5,000 Sons of Veterans, in command of Commander-in-Chief, Leland J. Webb, brought up in the rear of the long procession. The boys marched in fine style and received marked applause along the entire line.

There are thirty-two States and Territories organized as Sons of Veterans' divisions. During the past year the gain in membership has been 30,000.

NEW CAMPS FORMED.

The following new camps have lately been mustered in the Pennsylvania Division:

Camp 296, Fremont, Schuylkill County, 19 recruits, by Past Captain J. L. Zimmerman, Camp 22; Captain, George L. Immschweiber.

Lieutenant Waltz Camp, No. 297, Saxton, Bedford County, 22 recruits, by Past Captain John G. Cobler, Camp 253. Captain, A. A. Stevens.

Camp No. 298, Donegal, Westmoreland County, 13 recruits, by Past Captain S. M. Beatty, Camp 20; Captain, J. A. Hays.

Department of Connecticut Sons of Veterans.

Edited by Rollin T. Toms, Stamford, Conn., (of Camp 49, Connecticut Division, S. V., U. S. A.) to whom all communications from Connecticut camps should be sent.

DURING the hot and sultry weather of July and August everyone is looking for a recreation. Everyone is tired of work and wants rest. Such must be the case with the Sons of Veterans, for during the past month I have received no communications, from any camp, for publication.

Brothers, don't wait for something to happen in your camp before sending something for publication; but send any little news that may come to you. Let us know the condition of your camps. Every little helps, and the more we hear from each other, the better we will be acquainted. We will seem more like brothers when we meet. Not only that, but it will make the ties that bind us, stronger.

So let every camp have something for publication in our department next issue.

R. T. T.

CAMP 49.—STAMFORD, CONN.

W. R. C. No. 7, and S. of V. Camp 49, jointly gave a social and ball at the residence of Mrs. Olive Hitt, on July 31st.

The social was a grand success, there being at least one-hundred present. Although the evening was quite cool, still the *cream* diminished quite rapidly. The fact was, those present danced so hard, that they had to take cream to keep cool.

Every one had a splendid time and seem to be in a hurry for another. Of course we'll give them all they want, and don't you forget it; we're just built that way.

The social broke up with two sets of the nine pin about twelve o'clock.

Brother Camps, just take a little advice from us, if you want to meet with success in any undertaking, ask the W. R. C. to help you and you will surely meet with success.

Yours in F. C. and L.,

R. T. Toms,

Stamford, Conn.

Aid from Camp 49.

On the Road to Success.

THE Atlantic-Pacific Railway Tunnel Company is pushing straight ahead to success, working day and night, in both ends, to meet in the centre of the Rocky Mountains. The tunnel is now in 4,000 feet, east end, and 1,600 feet, west end, and proceeding about seven feet per day. The last car load of ore as got out and sold July 16, 1891, weighed 21,151 pounds, a trifle over ten tons and a half. It yielded \$17 per ton of gold; \$62 per ton of silver, and lead 36 per cent. netting the company \$678.40 for the car load, after all charges for freight, sampling and smelting were paid. This tunnel aside from its use for mining purposes will be used by an independent direct railway line between Denver and Salt Lake City. Its properties are immensely valuable and all paid for. Its taxes and labor bills are all paid. All interest due on the eight per cent. bonds are paid promptly, and it is driving ahead with its work for the benefit of all shareowners, with the proceeds arising from the 8 per cent. bonds it is now selling. They are among the best and most substantial securities in this country. Those wishing to know the merits of this great enterprise in Colorado, the greatest of the kind in the world, will receive a large pamphlet giving full particulars by addressing Mark M. Pomeroy, General Manager, Atlantic-Pacific Railway Tunnel Company, Rooms 46, Pulitzer Building, New York City.

From the Winner of "That Typewriter."

The following letters speak for themselves:

Freeport, Pa., July 20th, 1891.

TO PLAIN TALK PUBLISHING CO:

SIRS: I beg to inform you that I received the Typewriter safe and in good order. Am well pleased with it. I never used a typewriter yet. It was a grand surprise to me when I received notice of being first winner and I hereby send my sincere thanks for the esteemed honor I have gained through your paper. My friends have congratulated me in my winning this valuable prize. In my winning this prize it has stirred up some of the word builders in this place, and I hope it will stir up all over the country and swell the subscription of PLAIN TALK away up in the thousands yea tens of thousands. Long live PLAIN TALK. I remain, yours truly,

J. W. FALKNER.

Freeport, Pa., July 22d, 1891.

NATIONAL TYPEWRITER CO., Boston Mass.

GENTLEMEN: I am pleased to inform you that my Hall Typewriter gives perfect satisfaction, and I feel safe in saying that no one who may purchase of you will ever have cause to regret it.

Having had only a couple of days, I find the writer is so simple in construction, and so easy to manipulate, that a person of ordinary ability can do satisfactory work upon it after a short times practice.

I take pleasure in asserting my appreciation of the Hall Typewriter. To say that I am well pleased with it expresses it but faintly. Very truly yours,

J. W. FALKNER.

That Gift Launch.

Detroit, Mich., July 28th, 1891.

We hereby certify that the correct net weight of the Davis Boat and Oar Co.'s 'Gift Launch,' as weighed on A. E. Viger's Standard Scales on the above date, is 1,276 pounds.

We have examined the guess slips, and we find that the guess of Benjamin P. Thomas, of Pemberton, New Jersey, was the exact weight, 1,276 pounds. Recorded 6 P. M., May 29th, 1891. Amount of purchase, 25 cents.

J. A. MARSH,

M. J. DEE,

E. H. GILLMAN,

SIDNEY CORBETT, JR.,

J. L. CROUL,

} Committee.

Respectfully,

THE DAVIS BOAT & OAR CO.,
Detroit, Mich., U. S. A.

PLAIN TALK

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT

No. 5 BEEKMAN STREET, NEW YORK,

BY

PLAIN TALK PUBLISHING COMPANY

(INCORPORATED.)

The EXCHANGE AND MART OF BOSTON, and the STAMP WORLD and HUBBARD'S MAGAZINE of Lake Village, N. H. have been combined with this paper.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

IN ADVANCE.

Per Annum, 50 Cents. | Six Months, 25 Cents.
To Foreign Countries, 75 cents per annum.

The above rates apply to subscriptions, pure and simple; if the privilege of the Exchange and Sale Department is desired the price is \$1.00 per year—i. e., 50 cents in addition to the regular subscription. See also notice at head of that department.

PLAIN TALK will be stopped at expiration of subscription when the publishers are so requested, but *unless so requested* it will not be stopped. Subscribers will please note this fact. We have no desire to force the paper upon its readers, and a simple request to stop will be all that is necessary, but unless this request is received it will be continued.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Per line per insertion, 10 cents; per inch, \$1.00; per column, \$8.00. Space less than one column must be paid at inch rates; less than one inch at line rates. Ten per cent. discount for six months; 20 per cent. for one year. Rates invariable and all advertisements subject to approval.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post Office.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1891.

SEPTEMBER will call hosts of PLAIN TALK boys and girls from rambles afield, and they will again take up the school routine. Pleasant as the summer outing has been, may the season of study be still pleasanter!

Plain Talks.

BY REV. F. H. PALMER.

II.

ON LYING.

THE Devil is said to be "a liar and the father of it." Most people would quickly resent the insinuation that they are liars, yet it is very common for the father of lies to deceive the very elect into some form of deceit. It is so easy to make a mistake, or commit an indiscretion of some kind; and then it so often seems as if a very trifling departure from strict truthfulness would cover our error, and counteract its harmfulness. So, in the very name of virtue we sacrifice straightforward openness, and the habit of prevarication is established in our souls. Then it seems to be so much the way of the world to lie. It is soberly claimed by respected, if not respectable, business men that a young person cannot "get on" in the world if he does not "do as the Romans do;" and since he must constantly come into competition with those who adulterate their goods, and indulge in various "tricks of the trade" he is advised that he must do the same, or go to the wall. It does often seem on a superficial view that dishonesty is the best policy, and many a life has been ruined by taking, in the beginning, this wrong and fatal bent. A little clear and honest thinking is the best antidote. Clear thought usually commands action. This is why belief is of so much consequence. What difference does it make what a man believes so long as he is sincere? Every difference in the world, because he will be what, or as, he believes. Let us then think carefully and form the right beliefs on this difficult subject of lying, in regard to which wrong belief and practice have ruined so many otherwise promising lives.

A lie is a false representation made with the intention of deceiving another person. This definition is clear and simple, and if adopted will rid the subject of many difficulties. By it it is made clear that a lie is always in the *intention* to mislead; also that it is possible to lie otherwise than with the

lips. The tongue is the most common instrument of the lie, but *any* false representation made with the intention of misleading another, whether made by the tongue, or the eye, or the manner, or by an act, is a lie for which the liar will be held responsible. The definition will also help us to discriminate between the lie, which is always wrong, and deceit, which is often wrong, but not always and necessarily so. Deceit is a representation, *not necessarily false*, made with the intention of misleading another person. It is often just as bad as a lie, but it is in other circumstances just as right as truth. To illustrate, let us suppose that I awake in the night and find a burglar by my bed-side who demands that I tell him where I keep my money. Now I have a small sum, say \$5.00, in a table drawer, but the bulk of my wealth, say \$1,000, is in a safe in another room. I tell the burglar that my money is in my table drawer. The representation is not a false one, neither is it the whole truth; it is made with the intention of misleading him in relation to the main part of my wealth. Yet it is right because he has no right to the information which he demands. On the other hand we will suppose that I have stolen a thousand dollars, and the owner comes and demands his money, and I tell him he will find it in the table drawer, (where I have put a part, but only a small part of it). This will be wrong, because I do it with the intention of misleading from the whole truth one who has the right to know it. The illustration may be crude but it will suffice to show us that the right or wrong of deceit depends at least partly on the person's right to know the whole truth. It may be right to mislead a sick person, sometimes, by withholding the knowledge of serious symptoms, or by putting a cheerful side foremost when we are really very anxious about the issue; or we may by our words or manner mislead an insane or otherwise irresponsible person, without guilt. But we claim that in none of these cases will it be right to make a positively false representation with the intention of misleading. Why? Because to say a thing is true when we know it is false is to violate an inalienable right of all intelligent beings. The foundations of human society rest upon the pillar of truth. The possibility of communion, intercourse, friendship, business, between all persons or beings who have the capacity to communicate with each other depends on trust. And there cannot be trust where there is not trustworthiness. The logical outcome of a lie is to separate the liar from his fellows, and doom him to the most horrible form of punishment, viz: solitary confinement. Of course not every lie reaches its logical issue. But however cunning a man may be at deception, and however fully he may ward off for a time the legitimate consequences of his untruthfulness this is the tendency of his acts; and here and there we see an individual who has entirely alienated the confidence and respect of his fellow men. His credit is gone, his word is worthless, every one looks upon him with suspicion. What ruin is greater, what fate more sad!

The Bible does not contain a specific command: Thou shalt not lie, as it does the command: "Thou shalt not steal," etc., but the Bible is particularly emphatic in its condemnation of the lie. It is worth while to take a concordance and look up and write down all the passages which condemn this sin. It makes an impressive recital of the awful nature and the fearful consequences of the habit of lying. It is one of the most fertile sins. One lie is sure to breed another, and each fresh lie begets other forms of sin. The Bible and sound common-sense here, as everywhere, agree; it is plain that no liar can enter the eternal kingdom of love and peace.

Locomotives, Past and Present.

BY GEORGE D. KENDALL.

WITH the railroads of to-day spreading through every corner of every state in the Union, crossing and recrossing each other like the meshes of a gigantic spider's web, over which the marts of commerce ply their trade, or by which we can speedily and in comfort be transported in a parlor on wheels from one end of the land to the other, thousands of miles away, it is hard to believe that this system, so complex yet so perfect in detail, had its origin at so



GEORGE STEPHENSON.

recent a period as sixty-five years ago. We can scarcely picture in imagination a commerce dependent upon canals and turnpike roads for its transportation; but many a man is still alive who can remember the days when these were the only means of communication between far distant points. Stage-coach travel was slow, uncomfortable, and moreover very expensive.

The 27th of September, 1825, may be regarded as the birthday of the railroad system, if it can be said to have had a day of birth. The railroad from Stockton to Darlington, in England, had been completed. On the urgent recommendation of George Stephenson, the original plan of a wooden tramway had been abandoned, and an iron railway had been substituted. Yielding to Stephenson's persistency, the directors of the new enterprise permitted him to put upon the road, which had been intended only for horse-cars, a steam locomotive.

A great concourse of people assembled on the occasion of its opening, to glorify the success or ridicule the failure of the inventor; they were as ready to do the one as the other. A long procession of vehicles was formed: six wagons loaded with coal and flour, a covered coach containing directors and passengers, twenty-one coal wagons crowded with passengers, and six more wagons full of coal.

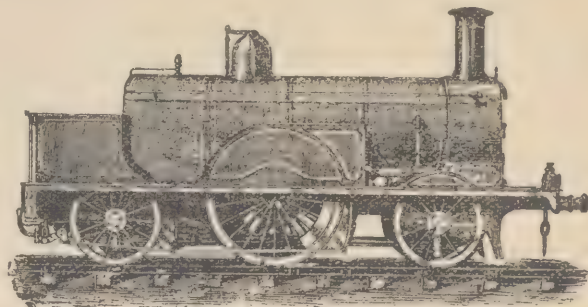


THE NO. 1 ENGINE AT DARLINGTON.

Locomotive engine No. 1, driven by George Stephenson, headed the procession. A man on horseback rode before and heralded the coming of the train. A great concourse of people, on horseback and foot, accompanied it; but not long. The horseman who heralded was compelled to leave the track; the accompanying horsemen and runners were distanced; and the first train that ever carried passengers finished its journey at the rate of from twelve to fifteen miles an hour.

That steam could ever be practically employed for draught in such a way as to compete in speed and utility with horses

was ridiculed by almost everyone. This ridicule was not confined to ignorant minds. The ablest engineers combined with the common people in declaring it impossible. They demonstrated its impossibility. Scientific people declared that it could not be done. Practical men declared that the dangers would render it inconceivably hazardous to public safety, even if the dream of the visionary enthusiasts could be realized.



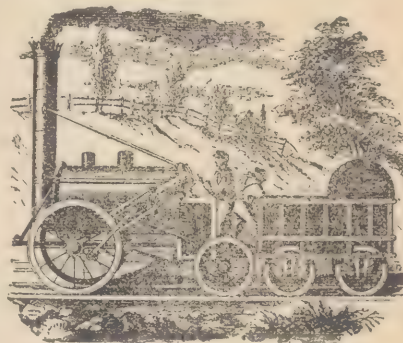
ENGLISH LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE.

One of the ablest of newspapers, one of the warmest friends of the movement, thus ridiculed the absurd expectations of some of its sanguine promoters: "What can be more palpably absurd and ridiculous than the prospect held out of locomotives travelling twice as fast as stage-coaches? We should as soon expect the people of Woolwich to suffer themselves to be fired off upon one of Congreve's ricochet rockets as trust themselves to the mercy of such a machine going at such a rate."

A parliamentary opponent to the first great passenger line, the Manchester and Liverpool, declared that it would be impossible to work the engine against a gale of wind. Another prophesied that it would deteriorate land in the vicinity of Manchester alone to the extent of £20,000.

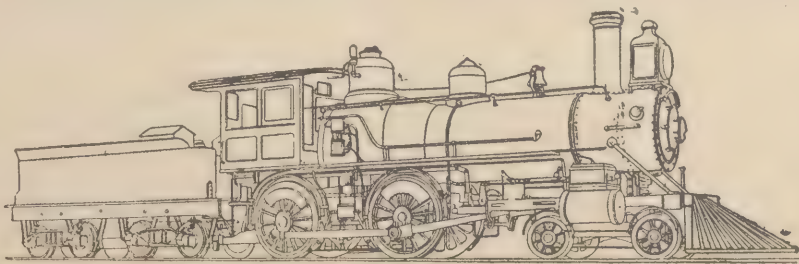
The surveyors were mobbed by the people; the work was impeded when commenced; engineers had to learn their art by experience, and of course by one that was prolonged and costly. No less resolute and determined a will, no less practical and sagacious an engineer than George Stephenson could have carried to its consummation the first great trunk line. On the thirty miles between Liverpool and Manchester there were under or over the railroad sixty-three bridges.

But if the railroad in its inception met with great impediments from its foes, their opposition is not to be wonder-



STEPHENSON'S "ROCKET"

ed at, for the schemes of the first railroad men were often visionary and impracticable. Those that stood the test of time remain; the others are forgotten. How singularly crude were the ideas of the railroad pioneers receives a curious illustration in the history of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, one of



AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE OF TO-DAY.

earliest constructed on American soil. The first locomotive was made with sails, to be propelled by the wind, like a ship.

At the famous trial of locomotives at Liverpool in 1829 four engines put in an appearance. Of the four George Stephenson's "Rocket" was the only one that achieved anything. Of the others, two utterly broke down; the third could attain at its utmost a speed of but five or six miles an hour. In number the failures preponderated; it is not strange that for a time they preponderated in the influence which they made on the public mind.

From the modest beginning in Stephenson's No. 1 and "Rocket" engines have developed the wonderful machines of to-day, which seem almost living things as they pull heavy trains along at a speed of thirty, forty, or even sixty miles per hour.

From the first days of locomotive building, after the practicability and immense value of Stephenson's invention were recognized by the public, there has been a gradually widening breach between the patterns upon which English and American locomotives have been built. English engines were built without springs, to run on a roadbed as level as a floor. American engines were made more flexible, and no matter how uneven the track they will run smoothly, if the rails are parallel.

For a long time England has made locomotives for the world. South America, Australia, Asia, Africa, and even North America, have poured millions into her coffers to purchase this tireless steed, whose lungs know no decay and whose feet are never weary. But the English engine is not suited for use out of John Bull's island because of its rigid construction. The Englishman seems never to be able to escape the influence of his surroundings. His island is small and densely populated, his roads short and the traffic heavy. Naturally the roads are of the best. Every valley is spanned by viaducts or bridges, every hill pierced with deep cuts or costly tunnels. The early railroad men had an impression that a railroad must be as nearly straight as possible, and as level as labor and money could make it. Later English builders followed these ideas closely, and the final result is magnificent in every sense.

But in other countries railroads are not built in that manner. Long lines of road, especially in a country of an uneven or mountainous surface, cannot be constructed so expensively. A railway, to be cheap, must follow the face of the country. That is, the line must go up and down hill, pass around abrupt curves, according to the lay of land, and without any attempt at a straight line or level bed. It is upon this idea that American railroads have been built, and all continental lines are likewise to be built in the future. If a railroad can thus follow the face of the country, it will not cost so much, there being no high bridges, deep cuts, or tunnels.

Of course the American engine cannot climb a house, or turn a right angle within its own length; but the requirements of railway travel make it necessary that an engine should follow lines that run up hills and down valleys and get around some remarkable corners, and on such roads the English locomotive fails. It will go along swiftly and majestically until a curve or perhaps a slight unevenness in the track is reached, and over goes the engine into the ditch. The rigid frame of the English locomotive renders it impossible for it to adjust itself to irregularities, no matter how small they may be, and the result is that sometimes the engine has three wheels, sometimes five on the rails, instead of the requisite number.

The English locomotive, then, while thoroughly suitable for the straight and level short railways of Great Britain, are unfit for service anywhere else, as railroad companies the world over are finding out. English locomotives everywhere, except in their own little island, are being replaced by others of American make, or at least built on American plans.

What would be said of a coach-builder who should make all his coupes, dog-carts and wagons with the axles of the wheels supporting a rigid frame-work and without a fifth wheel? It might be a very pretty dog-cart, and as strong as an ox-cart, but it would not be a lovely thing to drive in winding roads. It might get round a corner with some scraping of the wheels in the gravel, but a city street corner would try the horse, cart and patience of the driver—that is, if he were able to keep his seat. Now this is precisely what the English locomotive-builder does. His engine goes beau-

tifully on a straight line, and takes moderate curves with a certain amount of shaking, but sharp corners are apt to prove its ruin. On our winding roads it absolutely refuses to go at all; and if it does not suffer derailment it comes to grief from another cause.

The cow-catcher is an American device, and serves a good purpose in removing cattle or other obstructions that may be on the road. The Englishman fences his road at an enormous cost, and says he needs no cow-catcher; but, for all that, cattle do get on his lines at times with disastrous results, and new and cheap lines in thinly-settled countries cannot always be fenced and picketed. Above is the great lamp—another American invention—that lights the way before the driver, and here we are soon to see the electric light lighting up the line like day for a mile ahead.

Then there is the cab—a comfortable house for the men. English engineers, or engine-drivers, as they are called, are compelled to stand exposed to the elements in all sorts of weather without the slightest protection—and that, too, when their trains are going at from thirty to seventy miles per hour. The American engineers and firemen have always a shelter, warm and cosy in unpleasant weather, and they need spend none of their vital energy in trying to keep warm.

GAMES AND PASTIMES.

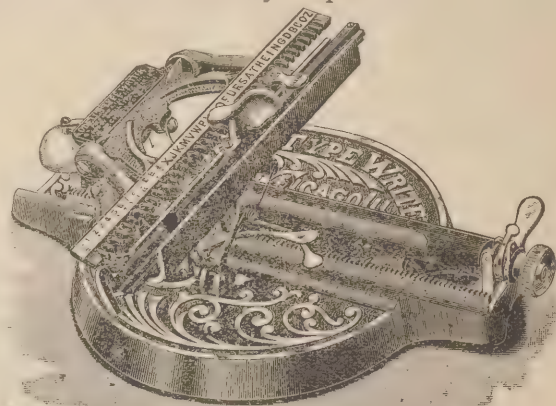
Contributions for this department are solicited in regard to every variety of indoor and outdoor amusement.

The Next Word-Hunt.

HOW the months do tumble over themselves, or, as the boy remarked how *tempus* does *fugit*! The Kodak contest closes on September 10th, and, with that out of the way, all hands will be ready to tackle the next contest. The base words are to be:

ODELL, THE KING!

The first prize is to be this handsome Odell Typewriter, and the winner will not only be proud of his success, but



proud of his prize as well. It is a prize well worth struggling for, and those who enter the contest may be sure of just and fair treatment. The second prize will be any five of our "Best Books," and the third prize any three. This contest will close October 10th.

Please note the following rules, and be sure you comply with them all. All prize papers must be sent to GEO. D. THOMAS, 14 High Street, Waltham, Mass., who has charge of this contest.

The rules governing the contest are as follows:

1. Only subscribers can compete but any one may send their subscriptions in with their list of words.
2. Proper names will not be allowed, and only words found in the body of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, which will be considered a final authority in deciding all disputed points.
3. Prefixes, suffixes and abbreviations will not be counted, nor will plurals be allowed.
4. Words marked "obsolete" will not be counted, unless they are still current in some one of their meanings.
5. Words of different meaning, but spelled the same, count as one word.
6. Words of the same meaning, but spelled differently, count one word for each spelling, unless one is obsolete.
7. No letter can be used more than once in the same word unless used more than once in the word or words used as a basis of the contest.
8. All lists must be written in ink (or on a type-writer) and must be alphabetically arranged, and the words numbered consecutively.
9. The full name and address of the contestant must be written at the top of the first sheet, and also the word used as the basis of the contest.
10. In case of a close contest, the number of errors and the general neatness of the work will be taken into consideration in awarding the prize.

The American Numismatic Association.

President, WILLIAM G. JERREMS, JR., Chicago, Illinois.
Vice-President, JOSEPH HOOPER, Port Hope, Ontario.
Secretary, CHARLES T. TATMAN, Worcester, Massachusetts.
Treasurer, DAVID HARLOWE, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
Board of Trustees: C. W. STUTESMAN, Bunker Hill, Indiana; W. KELSEY HALL, Peterboro, Ontario; JOHN F. JONES, Jamestown, New York.
Board of Temporary Organization, GEORGE W. RODE, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; J. A. HECKLEMAN, Cullom, Illinois; F. J. GRENNY, Brantford, Ontario.

Communications intended for this department should be sent to the Secretary of the Association.

THE election returns were all in by August 15th, and it is very gratifying to note that every person who was a member when the ballots were sent out, showed his deep interest by voting. Dr. Heath will be pleased to see how much confidence the Association has placed in his judgment. The Doctor's ticket has been almost unanimously elected as will be seen by the summary given below:

TEMPORARY OFFICERS OF THE A. N. A.

For President:

William G. Jerrems, Jr., had 25 votes.

For Vice-President:

Joseph Hooper, had 25 votes.

For Secretary:

Charles T. Tatman, had 25 votes.

For Treasurer:

David Harlowe had 26 votes.

For Trustees:

C. W. Stutesman, W. Kelsey Hall, and John F. Jones each had 25 votes.

For Board of Temporary Organization:

George W. Rode, had 22 votes; J. A. Heckelman, had 22 votes; and F. J. Grenny, had 24 votes.

In all, 26 votes were cast; so that the list at the head of this column is the duly elected board of officers of the A. N. A.

The following have become members since the list of twenty-five was published last month:

26. F. C. Browne, Framingham, Mass.
27. Charles H. Howes, 47 Chamber of Commerce, Omaha, Neb.
28. Samuel H. Chapman, 1348 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa.
29. Henry Chapman, Jr., 1348 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa.
30. Robert A. Campbell, Hanover, N. H.

Mr. J. A. Heckleman, of Cullom, Ill., writes that the Board of Organization have completed their draft of the constitution. He says that the document calls for a convention to be held in Chicago, Wednesday, October 7th, 1891. Also, a method of exchange has been devised which will not necessitate the use of the *rubbing* system suggested by President Jerrems.

We consider October 7th too early a date for the convention. Ample time ought to be allowed for a perusal of the proposed constitution and for reflection upon the work to be done. We therefore favor no date earlier than the first of November.

Chicago should wait until 1893 before receiving the A. N. A. in convention. The states on the Atlantic coast have a majority of the members of the Association. Their convenience should be consulted in appointing a place of meeting. If Chicago were selected, 22 members would look west and only 8 east. A more central place would be Albany, N. Y., or even New York City.

An Interesting Letter.

THE following letter has been received by the Secretary from Chapman Brothers, the well-known Philadelphia coin men:

"Philadelphia, August 6th, 1891.

"TO THE SECRETARY OF THE A. N. A.:

"IN accordance with the information gathered from PLAIN TALK, we wish to present our names, either collectively or individually as members in the American Numismatic Association.

"We are glad to see that there is a likelihood of the society being formed, and believe it will be of benefit to collec-

tors, as a mutual interest in any pursuit tends to pleasure and enlightenment.

"Our numismatic library is the finest in America, and it is at the service of any member of the Association who may wish to consult it; also, any information that we can give will be cheerfully given at any time.

"One aim of the society should be, we think, the suppression of counterfeits or false coins of every kind, and the exposure and publication in the Official Journal of any person proved guilty of selling such pieces as genuine. For years, in fact ever since we have been in business (1878 for ourselves, and three years prior with J. W. Haseltine) we have advocated this principle, and all counterfeits coming into our possession are put in a box and kept.

"If we are not laboring under a misapprehension, the fact of a man's being a member of the American Philatelic Association is considered a certificate of reliability. Would it not be desirable with this end in view to have a careful scrutiny of each applicant for membership in the A. N. A., requiring reference and some one to vouch for the applicant?

"We heartily hope the society will be a success, and remain, Very Respectfully,

"S. H. and H. CHAPMAN."

Your Taste for Liberty.

IN view of the present discussion concerning changes in the types for United States coinage, the question has been asked, "On what coin do we find the truest and most beautiful representation of *Liberty*?" There are very many different types already exemplified in the coins of the American and other republics. However much Englishmen boast of their "liberties," they have never been able to picture them on their national monies. They have always contented themselves with portraits of their rulers, or figures of "Brittania" which look like rehashed editions of the old conception of "Commerce."

The United States has produced many styles of "Liberty." France, Switzerland, and the South American Republics have added their contributions. We wish to find out what conception as expressed in a coin is the coin-collectors' choice. Below is a list of twenty different types of "Liberty." Send to the Secretary of the A. N. A. a postal card expressing your preference among these or any other *coined* representations of freedom's goddess. The chosen style will probably be illustrated in a future number of PLAIN TALK. Please also indicate your choice for the *worst* type. Our candidate for the *best* is number 20; and for the most hideous is number 17.

COINED LIBERTIES.

1. U. S. Cent, Liberty Cap.
2. Cent, Fillet head.
3. Cent, Head of 1808.
4. Cent, Head of 1816.
5. 3-cent Nickel.
6. 5-Cent "V" Nickel.
7. Turbanned Head Half Dollar.
8. Liberty Seated Half Dollar.
9. Trade Dollar.
10. Bland Dollar.
11. Switzerland, Minor Coinage.
12. 1st and 2d French Republic.
13. 3d French Republic.
14. Haiti, Minor Coinage.
15. Colombia, Minor Coinage.
16. Chili, Minor Coinage.
17. Peru, Liberty Standing, Silver Coinage.
18. Peru, Liberty Seated.
19. Venezuela, Minor Coinage.
20. Argentine Republic, Minor Coinage.

It will be very little trouble for you to send your vote in on a postal card, and the experiment, if successful, will be quite interesting.

WHO has not heard of Prof. Drummond and his soul-stirring essays? The publishers have a special offer to make to any of their friends who can devote a few hours to canvassing, and will send a circular on request. If you are interested, please ask for the Prof. Drummond circular.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Contributions to this department are solicited from all readers. Questions will be answered by competent authorities.

Brothers.

SPIDER,
At my window spinning,
Weaving circles wider, wider,
From the deft beginning,

Running
Wheels and spokes until you
Build your silken death-trap cunning,
Shall I catch you, kill you?

Sprawling,
Nimble, shrewd as Circe,
Death's your only aim and calling—
Why should you have mercy?

Strike thee?
Not for rapine wilful.
Man himself is too much like thee,
Only not so skilful.

Rife in
Thee lives our Creator;
Thou'rt a shape to hold a life in;
I am nothing greater.

—George Horton, in *Harper's Magazine* for June.

Feathered Surgeons.

SOME interesting observations relating to the surgical treatment of wounds by birds were recently brought by M. Fatio before the physical society of Geneva. He quotes the case of the snipe, which he has often engaged in repairing damages. With its beak and feathers it makes a very creditable dressing, applying plasters to bleeding wounds and even securing a broken limb by means of a stout ligature. On one occasion he killed a snipe which had on the chest a large dressing composed of down taken from other parts of the body, and securely fixed to the wound by the coagulated blood. Twice he has brought home snipe with interwoven feathers strapped on to the site of fracture of one or other limb. The most interesting example was that of a snipe both of whose legs he had unfortunately broken by a misdirected shot. He recovered the animal only on the day following, and he then found that the poor bird had contrived to apply dressings and a kind of splint to both limbs. In carrying out this operation, some feathers had become entangled around the beak, and, not being able to use its claws to get rid of them, it was almost dead from hunger when discovered. In a case recorded by Mr. Magnin, a snipe which was observed to fly away with a broken leg was subsequently found to have forced the fragments into a parallel position, the upper fragment reaching to the knee, and secured them there by means of a strong band of feathers and moss intermingled. The observers were particularly struck by the application of a kind of flat-leaved grass wound round the limb in a spiral form and fixed by means of a sort of glue.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

A Tame Hummingbird.

DURING this last summer a pair of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds have frequented our garden and during one hot day the female bird got into our conservatory and did not know how to get out again. I went in and plucked a handful of flowers and held them up and to my surprise the bird darted down and sipped the honey from the flowers in my hand. I did this several times during the day and at last it got so tame that it lit on my shoulder and then flew on to my hand where it sat and took the honey from the flowers. I caught it and let it out into the yard where it soon joined its mate. Several days afterward I stood in the garden watching them and I plucked some flowers and held them out. The bird came quickly and resumed its former tactics of the conservatory. It has since repeated it several times.

Correspondence.

DEAR READERS:—Here we are again to have a little chat about my treasures which I enjoy looking over and over again, and they never seem to grow old. Before we proceed further, I desire to show you a specimen of Coral which has just arrived from the Gulf. It was sent me by one of our neighbor's boys, who went to Florida a few years ago. It is a miniature tree in shape and the purest, whitest coral in my collection. Only yesterday these beautiful specimens of Onyx (nearly six pounds in all) arrived. Are they not handsome? One side is very highly polished, bringing out the colors so nicely. Here is an Echinoderm, (Sea Urchin) about six inches in diameter with spines. This accompanied the Onyx in its long journey. The Sea Urchins are much of a curiosity to many persons, those having spines more so than those without. I have three small ones with spines about the size and resembling the chestnut burr. One of these small ones came from Florida and it has five teeth. The Echinoderm is the lowest branch of the animal kingdom in which teeth are detected. Now we will proceed to the shells. Mine is a small collection in comparison to some, yet I prize my few more than I can tell. I cannot give the names of all. First I will begin with the Helmet. Here is a pair about two thirds grown, which I consider perfection in every way.

I once thought the larger the shell the prettier but when my Massachusetts friend sent this pair, he also sent a full grown one that I might see the difference, and it did not take long to convince me of the wrong idea I entertained, yet all shells are beautiful to me. Here is a pair of Cameo shells, from which I understand the setting of jewelry are taken from a certain place in the back of the shell, then the rest of the shell is thrown away, but it takes considerable work to prepare these Cameo settings ready for use. Then see these Conch shells of the most lovely tint of pink inside. I very well remember the first Conch shell I ever saw. My father (who was in poor health) while I was a mere child went to Texas to spend the winter. At that time he had to go by water. There being no railroads, it was considered in those days a long distance to Texas. Well when he came home he brought some of those lovely Conch shells with him. People in those days used them for "dinner horns." They sawed off the little pointed end, and blew in them to call the "men folks" from the field to dinner. Here are Alabama shells both in the rough and polished. Many persons have asked me if these shells are not painted inside. I tell them no, that nature in that is far superior to art. This smoky Pearl I prize very highly I think it is a rare shell. This pair of blood Haliots I consider very fine. A lady in New Hampshire sent me four lovely shells not so large as some I have named but do not fall short in beauty in the least. First, Pearl Thorns; second, Hippopus, Maculatus or spotted Bears—pow clam; third, Voluta; fourth, Harpa Ventricosa, and later I have from the same lady received a most lovely Terebra Maculata, (Auger Shell). Persons who do not have these shells in their collection, certainly miss some of the beauties of the great sea. Then here are cowries, clams, starfish, horse shoe crab, periwinkle, oyster, water snail, razor shell and two varieties of Pinna Undis. A few days since I received some petrified shells from Texas but I have no idea of the name; also a petrified oyster from the Mississippi. I am told there are very large petrified oyster shells in California, but I have never been so fortunate yet as to be the possessor of a large one. Now we have come to the other specimens of Coral. First this, white in color and very different in shape to the one heretofore described. Second, a gray color and beautiful in shape, resembling a cake basket, with hundreds of little points projecting. Now here is the third and last, yet my first to receive, and to my mind the prettiest of all. There are several other kinds of coral I would like so much to have in my collection. When you come in again I think I will have time to show you through my entire collection and hope that you may enjoy seeing my specimens as much as I do showing them to you.

NORA NORMAL, Indiana.

I AM pleased with the paper and the price.—*W. B. S., Detroit.*

PHILATELY.

ALVAH DAVISON, - - - - - EDITOR,
176 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Stamp Collecting.

HOW TO COLLECT FROM THE BEGINNING, UP.

Copyrighted 1891, by Alvah Davison.

All rights reserved.

[CONCLUDED.]

PEOPLE WHO ARE STAMP COLLECTORS.

Many think that all stamp collectors are young boys, but this is a great mistake, as thousands of middle aged and old men are interested in the pursuit and have valuable collections.

Among my own acquaintances I could name a dozen lawyers, while bankers, merchants, bookkeepers, and in fact every branch of mercantile life is represented, these men finding stamp collecting a pleasing change for their tired brains.

In England more than one member of the nobility possesses a collection, the Duke of Edinburgh being honorary president of the Philatelic Society of London.

HOW TO BEGIN A COLLECTION.

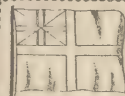
Now having seen what stamp collecting really is, let us see how you would begin a collection.

The first thing you need is a postage stamp catalogue, as this describes every postage stamp that has been issued, and if you have any stamp you are in doubt about, the catalogue will quickly enlighten you, as it shows pictures of all stamps.

The price of the catalogue is only twenty-five cents and it can be had from J. W. Scott Co., 163 Fulton St., N. Y.

THE ALBUM.

The next thing is a postage stamp



SWEDEN.

Limited monarchy in northwestern Europe.
Population, 4,690,000. Area, 178,974 square miles.
First stamps issued in 1855.



PAGE OF 25 CENT ALBUM. (REDUCED.)

NICARAGUA.

One of the Five Central American Republics.

Population, 275,000.

SERIES OF 1862-71.

Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color
1 C. BROWN.	5 C. BLUE.	10 C. BLACK.	15 C. VERMILION.	20 C. GREEN.	25 C. GREEN.
(1862)	(1862)	(1862)	(1862)	(1862)	(1862)

SERIES OF 1878.

Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color
1 C. BROWN.	5 C. BLUE.	10 C. BLACK.	15 C. VERMILION.	20 C. GREEN.	25 C. GREEN.
(1878)	(1878)	(1878)	(1878)	(1878)	(1878)

SERIES OF 1889.

Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color
1 C. GREEN.	5 C. CARMINE.	10 C. BLUE.	15 C. BLACK.	20 C. YELLOW.	25 C. SLATE.	30 C. SLATE.	35 C. VIOLET.
(1889)	(1889)	(1889)	(1889)	(1889)	(1889)	(1889)	(1889)

SERIES OF 1890.

Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color
1 C. BROWN.	5 C. VERMILION.	10 C. BLUE.	15 C. SLATE.	20 C. RED.	25 C. VIOLET.	30 C. VIOLET.	35 C. DARK VIOLET.
(1890)	(1890)	(1890)	(1890)	(1890)	(1890)	(1890)	(1890)

Value	Color	Value	Color	Value	Color
40 C. GREEN.	45 C. ROSE.	50 C. ORANGE.			
(1890)	(1890)	(1890)			

Copyright, 1890, by J. W. Scott.

PAGE OF \$1.50 ALBUM. (REDUCED.)

album, and these are made in all sizes and styles to suit from the smallest to the largest collection.

An album holding about 2,000 stamps can be bought for fifteen cents, and from this sum they go to 25 cts. 50 cts. 75 cts. Albums at these prices are good for beginners, but they only have a certain number of spaces and do not include all stamps issued.

An album which has printed spaces for every stamp ever

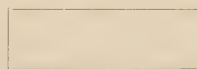
issued can be bought for \$1.50, or the same album with beautiful cloth and gold covers costs \$2.50. This is J. W. Scott's "Best" postage stamp album, published by J. W. Scott Co., 163 Fulton St., N. Y., and I can recommend it as suitable for the most exacting collector.

These albums have the name of the country, the date of issue, the value and even a picture of the stamp in the spaces, so it is the easiest thing in the world to place each stamp in its right place.

MOUNTING STAMPS.

Before you place any stamps in the album, all the paper should be removed from the backs of the stamps. To do this put them in a cup of water and in a short time the paper will come off, after which allow the stamps to dry.

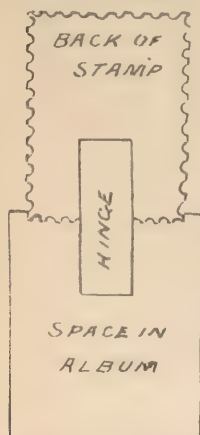
The stamps are placed in the album by using a small narrow strip of gummed paper about this size :



This is called a "hinge," one-half of the strip being pasted to the upper part of the stamp (back) and the other half to the album as per illustration. The stamps are mounted in this way so they can be turned up to see the back, and if you desire to place a better specimen in the space, you can do so without hurting the one already in, as you only have to tear the hinge in removing it.

The hinges are furnished by all stamp dealers at only ten cents per thousand. Don't put badly torn stamps in your album as they hurt the looks of the whole page. Put in only perfect specimens and those with the lightest cancella-

tions. If you put a poor specimen in at first, put a better one in as soon as you can obtain one.



WHERE TO OBTAIN STAMPS.

If you are in a city where foreign steamers arrive, by calling at the offices you can learn when the ships are due, and then by calling again and asking in a respectful manner for the stamps from their letters you will often get a number.

If you know of any merchants or anyone else in your town who get foreign letters, ask for the stamps—nothing is obtained without asking.

If you have parents, grand parents, relatives or friends who have any old letters stowed away, hunt them up and obtain the stamps. Often very

valuable stamps are found in this way which can be exchanged for many others or sold. If you find a stamp which is valuable or which you do not find mentioned in the catalogue of stamps, it is always best to leave it on the envelope until you write your dealer about it and ascertain its value.

There are millions of old stamps stowed away in trunks and boxes and these the collectors should bring to light as they are worth money.

(TO BE CONCLUDED.)



Special Notice.

THE subscription list of *Young America*, a periodical which suspended publication last spring has been transferred to PLAIN TALK. *Young America's* former editor believes that none of the subscribers will be disappointed in PLAIN TALK, and he cordially commends it to them as a bright, clear, readable publication, well worth renewing their subscriptions to when they have received the numbers due them by *Young America*. That they will look forward to its coming and welcome it heartily is the desire and belief of *Young America's* late editor and publishers.

"Win the Kodak."

THE above are the base-words for the word-building contest which closes on September 10th. There will be just time for late comers to send in their lists after this issue is received, but they must be quick about it. The contest is to be a sharp one. Go in and win!

Ladies' Exchange Column.

Exchange notices of not more than forty words inserted free to subscribers only.

Mrs. A. C. Morgan, Box 78 Niagara Falls, N. Y.—Will send a good specimen of white satin spar or of petrified moss, for two stereoscopic views.

Mrs. E. J. Church, Windsor, Vt.—Has fourteen fine Oil Paintings ready for framing to exchange for dry goods or anything useful. Send for list of paintings, and write best offers.

Mrs. G. Stelle, Crossingville, Crawford Co., Pa.—Has handsome frosted hand painted white wadding gauze picture drapes to offer for two yards of fine bleached muslin or three yards of gingham.

Mrs. J. H. Gossett, Salt Creek, Ind.—Has silver ice pitcher, when new, cost twenty-five dollars, to exchange or ladies watch or best offers.

Pauline Peters, Oceanus, P. O., L. I.—Has desirable articles of fancy work, knit and crocheted lace, to exchange for white cambric or any good offer.

AMATEUR PRESS NOTES.

Conducted by "AN OLD BOY."

NEW PAPERS.

The following new papers are reported by the *National Amateur*:

The Sun; James P. White, Jr., Chauncey D. Cows, 18 Arlington Place, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Jerseyman; H. E. Deats, Flemington, N. J.

The Postman; Frank J. Fellows, 913 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y.

The Scroll; D. Oscar Groff, Versailles, Kentucky.

Lotus Leaves; Will R. Nichols, Edwin A. Goewey, Elmer O. Sheldon, Minnie Jones, Minnie Goewey, 142 So. Swan St., Albany, N. Y.

American Youth; Jas. J. Hailey, Nashville, Tenn.; T. J. Darling, Temple, Texas.

Southern Herald; J. W. Donovan, 524 27th St., South Birmingham, Ala.

Water Lily; Morton C. Whitney, 416 22d St., North Birmingham, Ala.

Excelsior; A. Blais, 244 Dorgenois St., J. L. Brunet, 378 No. Robinson St., New Orleans, La.

Lovejoy Picayune; Walter H. Grant, Lovejoy, Ga.

New Delta; Miss Ella Bentley (9 yrs.) Master Domand Bentley (8 yrs.) Donaldsville, La.

The Epoch; Herman A. Jaehne, 27 Hooker Ave., Jersey City, N. J.; Wm. B. Burger, 76 Vine St., Nashua, N. H.

Ink Drops; Alson Brubaker, Lock Box 1984 Fargo, N. Dakota, Bertha York Grant, 321 Roberts St., Fargo, N. Dakota.

The Investigator; T. J. Spencer, 320 Main St., New Britain, Conn.

The Amateur Effort; Hallettsville, Texas.

CORRESPONDENCE CLUB.

This Department is established in response to numerous requests from subscribers. All readers are invited to make use of it, remembering the following rules: FIRST—Brevity. SECOND—Clearness of statement. THIRD—Decisive knowledge of what is wanted. FOURTH—The desirability of confining themselves, as much as possible, to questions of interest to others as well as themselves. All questions will be given attention as early as possible, although in some cases more or less delay may be necessary.

PIECES TO SPEAK.

The new department of "Pieces to Speak" may be expected next month, and we believe will be found of interest to many. The editor wishes selections of prose or poetry suitable for declamation or recitation and will give each month one of the "Best Books" to the subscriber who sends in the best selection, it being understood that all received are to be at his disposal. Selections which have not appeared in school speakers are preferred. Remember this prize will be awarded on the 10th of October, and on the 10th of each succeeding month for the present.

A FOSSIL CRINOID.

G. A. K.—The specimen which you send is probably part of a crinoid stem. The fossil crinoid is the remains of an animal of the starfish family. The piece is so small that it is not easy of identification, but its radiating structure seems to connect it with the echinoderms or star fishes. The whole crinoids are called stone lilies, from a resemblance to that flower.

THE WORD-HUNTS.

Miss Hauck sends us the following letter, which we take the liberty to print, as it refers to a matter mentioned in last issue.

TO THE EDITOR OF PLAIN TALK:—Your paper grows more interesting each month, and I can plainly see what great advancement it has made in the past year. I noticed in the "Correspondence Column," what was said about Falkner, Hauck and McClelland, and it rather amused me. My idea when I first received PLAIN TALK, before I took part in the word hunts, was similar to the one of the young lady who expressed her mind so freely, but after trying myself, though not at first successful, I was ashamed of my first conclusion. Perseverance is what is needed for the word-contests and many lack that.

I must thank you again for the lamp and many

books I have won through PLAIN TALK, and can only wish you great success for the future.

EMMA L. HAUCK.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

From now on hundreds, if not thousands, of new subscribers should be added to PLAIN TALK's list each month. It is necessary that this should be done if the paper is to reach the measure of success which is the ambition of its publishers. Present subscribers can aid much in this direction. It would be but a trifling matter, to each to secure the subscription of one friend, but the result to the paper would be great. The publishers will at any time extend for six months the time of any subscriber who will send the name of a new subscriber with payment for a year. Thus by securing two new subscribers one may pay his own subscription for a year.

THE SHUT-IN SOCIETY.

PLAIN TALK has a small fund which may be used to send free copies of the paper to those who are invalids and can not afford to subscribe, preference being given to members of the above society. If any subscribers desire to contribute to the fund they can do so with the assurance that the money will be carefully used. In charging for subscriptions the publishers only ask for the actual cost of the paper, so that a few dollars will make many invalids happy. Any contributions will be acknowledged.

THE EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

A subscriber who has tried the exchange department writes: "I have made several good exchanges through your paper and find it a good and valuable medium to those who have anything to sell or exchange. I like it better than some costing twice as much."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Miss A. T. M. Miller.—In your list of answers to puzzles published in the May number, you correctly answered all but the first one, and as a consequence the list was enrolled as incomplete.

A complete list constitutes a full set of correct answers to puzzles published.

PUZZLEDOM

CONDUCTED BY "FISCO."

Address all communications pertaining to this Department to EDGAR D. MELVILLE, Puzzle Editor PLAIN TALK 925 Upland Street, Chester, Pa.

Answers to Puzzles that appeared in the July number.

- No. 1. w
p e a
m a n n a
m a n d a t e
- No. 2. f
p u s
p o s t s
f u s t i a n
s t i l t
s a t
n
- No. 3. Tectibranchiate.
- No. 4. C H a r t
b R I c k
h a S T y
d r a M A
d a m e S
CHRISTMAS.
- No. 5. f o l i a r
s a b a l s
p e r o n e
s o r d e t
l a r g e s
d o t t e d
- No. 6. r a c h
a c h e
c h i a
h e a t
- No. 7. s
s e t
s p i r e
s e i z u r e
t r u e r
e r r
e
- No. 8. "Time and tide wait for no man."

New Puzzles.

- No. 1. CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.
In pink not in blue,
In false not in true,
In many not in few,
In Jim not in Sue,
In ten not in two,
In tarry not in go,
In hand not in toe,
In fling not in throw,
In auk not in crow.
A splendid paper 'tis for youth,
Noted for spiceness, energy and truth.
Cedar Rapids, Ia. "NEMO."
- No. 2. CHARADE.
There was a *total* plumber in the city
of Connaught
Who in deeds of charity was very
seldom caught;
He'd empty *last* purse,
If he wouldn't do worse,
And to the public *first* gave not a
thought.
Philadelphia, Pa. "ARTY FISHEL."
- No. 3. STAR.
1. A letter; 2. An abbreviation; 3. Overruns; 4. To feel sorrow for; 5. Black; 6. One who tills; 7. Parts of a coat; 8. P. O. of Texas; 9. A letter.
Leicester, Mass. "Po Po."

- No. 4. ANAGRAM.
Her pipes is on man (one word).
White Plains, N. Y. "E. L. H."

- No. 5. MUTATION.
HOP! RUSTIC.
Behold fair maiden passing by,
Rustic youth coming nigh,
She humming low and small,
He whistling nothing at all.
Now they pass their eyes doth meet,
Now they are gone their hearts doth
beat;
But only for a yard or two
When both look 'round—how do you
do?
She with eyes upon the ground,
He doth blush and stare around;
A minute only his eyes doth roam
Then sweetly—may I see you home?
Jersey City, N. J. "INCOGNITO."

- No. 6. SQUARE.
1. To narrate; 2. Weeds that grow
among grain; 3. Airs or songs; 4. To
annoy; 5. A town in Germany.
Nutley, N. J. "LATIO."

- No. 7. ARITHMETICAL PUZZLE.
c d f | a b c d e f | f d c g
g d b

e f f d
e c h d

g i e
d i h

e b d f
e g g e

e a c

- White Plains, N. Y. "E. L. H."

- No. 8. CHARADE.
Without a *first* you surely know,
No ship to sea would ever go;
A *second* is with which you and I
To work these puzzles always try,
While my whole is the second of a
first;
I have told you enough, now do your
worst.
Sunbury, O. "METEOR."

- No. 9. REBUS.
B A G E
Waterman, Ill. "SOLON."

- No. 10. SQUARE.
1. Pulverized sugar candy; 2. To re-
main; 3. One who cheats or defrauds;
4. Opinions; 5. Concise.
West Gray, Me. "ALEX."

- No. 11. DOUBLE ACROSTIC.
(Geographical).
1. Country of Asia; 2. River of S.
Palestine; 3. Falls in America; 4. Town
of Arabia; 5. Bay of Africa; 6. Seaport
town of Denmark. Primals, country of
America. Finals, a fruit.
Atherly, Ont. "DON."

- No. 12. PI.
Hout gunnirnten spta
Gtsnor aer teh srbaeirrdnon
Yht akdradimon
Nda srefett rsue dan tfsa
Ldol ial hatt treen hyt
Ghbnitearun urgie.
White Plains, N. Y. "HAIGHT."

Prizes.

For correct list, any two of our "Best books."

For best incomplete list, any one of our "Best books."

The first named prize will be awarded on the following plan: If an even number of correct answers are received the prize will be sent to the one sending the first; if an odd number, to the one sending the middle correct answer, unless divisible by five, when it will be given for the last correct answer.

Answers to puzzles appearing in this issue will be published in the November number, and answers will be received up to October 10th, 1891, but no answers received after that date will count.

Prize Winner.

For best incomplete list, Albert Pen-
nel, (Alex.) West Gray, Maine.

No complete lists were received.

Incomplete lists were received from Don, Po Po, Ophir, Alex., W. H. D., E. L. H., Haight, Fancy, Arty Fishel, and Hereward.

Chat.

Arty Fishel, of the "City of Brotherly Love," is one of the most active of puzzlers.

At the sixteenth semi-annual conven-
tion of the Eastern Puzzler's League, he
was elected Official Editor.

It was through his courtesy that we
received the *Diamond Club Courier*, and
the *Crystal Palace Monthly*.

The first named paper is published by
the Diamond Club of Philadelphia, and
the latter is a regular monthly maga-
zine, which contains an excellent de-
partment under the title of "Mysteries,"
ably conducted by Arty Fishel.

"I received my prize *Last of the Mohegans*, and am highly pleased with it."—"OPHIR."

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

Aug. 7th, 1891.

MR. EDGAR D. MELVILLE,
Chester, Pa.

FRIEND FISCO:—"Puzzledom" is
growing more interesting each month,
and I must congratulate you on the
success that has followed your efforts in
conducting this department.

The only puzzles that are really
difficult for me to solve, are the ana-
grams. I notice that you never have
had an "Arithmetical Puzzle" among
any of your "New Puzzles," and I en-
close one, hoping to see it in print.

Some may think that these "Arith-
metical Puzzles" are merely solved by
guess-work, but I assure you it is not
so, but close calculations and persever-
ance are needed for the solving of
same.

Wishing you as great success in the
future as in the past, I am,

Yours very truly,

"E. L. H."

The "Arithmetical Puzzle" referred
to in the foregoing communication ap-
pears in this issue.

Exchange and Sale Department.

Subscribers who pay \$1.00 per year have the privilege of this department free, subject to the following rules. To those not subscribers the charge is 1 cent per word per issue. Old subscribers who were on our books March 1, 1891, have the privilege of this department free to the close of 1891, regardless of the amount paid for subscription. It must be understood that we can take no responsibility concerning exchanges effected by means of this department, neither will the reliability of exchangers be guaranteed. To avoid any misunderstanding in the matter, it would be advisable for those contemplating exchanging to write for particulars to the addresses before sending the articles desired. Notices must be plainly and concisely written, following the general arrangement given below, and on one side of the paper only. Send as often as you please, but not more than one notice for single issue. Notices of more than 40 words not inserted. Notices are not repeated, i. e., a notice can have but one insertion. Exchange notices of revolvers, "trashy" novels, etc., not inserted. The publishers reserve the right to decline to insert any notice if they think best.

Clarence B. Ward, Huntington, N. Y.—Some Swiss carved picture frames, old-fashioned flint lock gun, 140 egg incubator and some pit games, to trade for a safety bicycle, gun or cash.

James L. Little, Goddard Avenue, Brookline, Mass.—Clumber Spaniel pups for sale, from pedigreed stock, guaranteed to be of regular Clumber House descent. Very fine game dogs. Unexcelled intelligence and kindness.

C. H. Trask, Middlebury, Conn.—For sale, 1820 large cent, fair, 10c.; 1857 flying eagle cent, fine, 5c.; 1820 dime, very good, 35c.; half dime, 1857, good, 15c.; 1871 half dime, good, 15c.; 1838 dime, fair, 15c.; two cent stamp for list.

A. P. Wylie, Prairie Center, Ill.—Indian ax and celt, both fine, \$2.50. An autograph album, cost 65c. for four dimes prior to 1875, 2 Confederate or 1 Continental bill for each 1/2 cent, 425 varieties stamps for offers.

C. L. Duff, Clay City, Ill.—An Improved Model Self-Inking printing press, 20 fonts type, cases, etc., cheap.

V. E. Holt, Canton, Me.—Will exchange cash for a safety bicycle in good order.

Geo. W. Rarey, Baker, Kans.—1,000 fine cabinet specimens, and Dana's Manual of Mineralogy and Petrography, new, for exchange for Indian relics, and sea shells. Send list and receive mine.

Clarence Norton, Elkhart, Ind.—Exchange or sale \$6.50 magic lantern, and stamp album, with 200 stamps.

J. W. Tweed Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio.—For sale cloth copy Squier and Davis Ancient Monument Mississippi Valley, in fine condition. Also arrow-points, etc. Correspondence solicited.

F. R. Kimball, 31 Maple St., Waltham, Mass.—U. S. Coins from 1793 to 1890 for sale; also Colonial from 1616 to 1795 wanted. Correspondence with collectors desired.

WHO DOES YOUR PRINTING?

Do you use printed stationery, note heads, letter heads, bill heads and envelopes? If not, you should use them if you are in business, for no advertising is so effective, or so convenient both for your correspondent and yourself. Printed stationery insures prompt attention and correct returns from your correspondents, and it is important not only that the stationery shall be printed, but be well printed. Your letter is your representative, and your business is regarded well or ill according to the appearance of your letter. A neat, well printed note head and envelope and a well written letter commands instant respect and attention, while the reverse of this is usually taken to indicate carelessness in business, a disregard of appearances, and slipshod business methods. A great many men throughout the country are using poorly printed stationery which continually does them an injustice because they are unable in their locality to obtain artistic, business-like printing. The thousands of specimens of poor printing which annually come to this office lead us to offer fine stationery, printed in a first-class manner, at the following prices:—

500 Note Heads,	\$1.80,	1000 Note Heads,	\$2.50.
500 Letter Heads,	2.10,	1000 Letter Heads,	3.30.
500 Short Bill Heads,	1.60,	1000 Short Bill Heads,	2.25.
500 Long Bill Heads,	2.00,	1000 Long Bill Heads,	2.95.
500 Envelopes, 6s,	2.00,	1000 Envelopes, 6s,	3.00.

Prices on larger quantities or other kinds of work quoted on request. If these figures seem at first glance to be high, remember that they are for first-class stock, well printed, and that they will be delivered at these prices to any address in the United States. Cash must accompany all orders.

PLAIN TALK PUBLISHING CO.,
No. 5 Beekman Street, New York.

FREE! FREE!

We have on hand and are constantly receiving large quantities of the best Magazines, Story and Comic Papers, Philatelic Journals, &c., and will send

FREE BY MAIL A POUND ROLL

for only 10 cents. These papers are first class, and are sure to please. We have customers who order several lbs a week, for 50c.

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Make Money.

BETTER THAN 8 PER CENT.

The Atlantic-Pacific Railway Tunnel Company

Incorporated in 1884 to buy land, mines, mill sites, water powers, machinery, etc., in Colorado, to pay for the same in shares or money; to open mines and carry on the business of mining and treating of ores; to open a tunnel and operate the same for mining as well as general railway purposes later on.

Under and in strict conformity with its charter it has authorized the issuance of 700,000 SHARES OF THE PAR VALUE OF \$10 each. It has disposed of about 500,000 of its shares for valuable properties in the counties of Clear Creek and Summit, Colorado, and for such cash as has thus far been used to develop and improve its properties.

Its shares are full paid and no taxes or assessments can be laid against them, and, therefore, no act of the Company can deprive one person of his share or shares for the benefit of others.

Two hundred thousand shares still in its treasury for sale as the Company offers them for improvement purposes.

MORE THAN 4600 men, women and children now jointly interested as share owners, and, therefore, members of the Atlantic-Pacific Railway Tunnel Co.

The Company has more than four millions of dollars' worth of property all fully paid for.

All its interest obligations are met promptly as they mature.

More than 5000 feet of tunnel already driven, including 3100 feet on the east side of the Rocky Mountains, 60 miles due west from Denver, Colo., and more than 1400 feet of tunnel driven into the west side of the mountains, as well as side tunnels into veins.

Main tunnel, when completed for railway use, will be 25,200 feet long.

More than \$2,000,000 worth of gold, silver, copper and lead owned by this Company, already in sight, to be marketed in the future.

Work going on in the tunnel and in the mines day and night.

More than 250 rich, large veins of mineral, gold, silver, copper and lead are being cut by this tunnel, at depths ranging from 1000 to 4400 feet below their surface, so that millions of dollars' worth of the precious metals can be brought out each year and sold, the profits all going to share owners in exact proportion to the number of shares each person owns.

Full paid, non-assessable, non-taxable shares in the above-named Company, making the purchaser a MEMBER OF THE COMPANY and a JOINT OWNER in all the rights, properties, franchises and profits from sale of ore, land and mineral, and from all rentals as they accrue. These shares are of the PAR VALUE OF \$10 EACH. Present selling price, \$6 each, but no fewer than two shares will be sold at a time. No personal liability to share owners, and no running in debt by the Company.

On money thus invested, the investor

will receive FIFTY CENTS A YEAR CASH as interest on each guaranteed share, making 8 1/3 per cent. yearly interest on the sum actually invested, and as the Company makes the money to pay larger dividends or interest, it will be paid. But FIFTY CENTS A YEAR CASH INTEREST can be counted on to a certainty. It will not be long before a steadily increasing rate of interest or dividends will be paid.

Every dollar promised as dividends on guaranteed shares named above, paid. Any person can become a joint owner in this, the greatest mining enterprise in the world, who can pay for two or more shares and have as many votes in all affairs of the Company as he or she owns shares.

Investment safe, certain and increasingly profitable. Each investor, man, woman or child, becomes one of a great co-operative association where capital and labor are in harmony and each alike protected. Any one can invest. Shares issued direct to the purchaser the day the pay therefor is received, and at the end of each year from the date of issuing the shares, the interest will be promptly remitted. Price, \$6 each. No fewer than two shares sold at a time.

Eight per cent. Bonds, First Mortgage, are also offered; the entire proceeds arising from sale of bonds or shares going to increase the properties of the Company. Bonds \$250 and \$1000 each. Interest payable in cash March 1st and September 1st each year till 1907, when the principal will be paid. Interest on bonds paid by sale of gold, silver and lead taken from the properties of the Company. With each bond is given an option for the purchaser to exchange it for shares when the Company proves it will be best for the investor to exchange if he wishes to. \$1,700,000 of these A securities yet for sale, out of \$2,000,000 authorized.

NOTE THESE FACTS.—All properties fully paid for. All interest obligations fully paid. Work going on in both ends of the tunnel all the time, bringing silver and lead ore from both ends of the tunnel. All debts of the Company for interest, supplies, labor, taxes, etc., to date of March 1, 1891, fully paid.

Four contractors working at east end of tunnel—one in tunnel work, the others opening mineral veins—and one contractor at west end. An additional plant of (steam and water motor) 240-horse power ordered for east end of tunnel, to be used exclusively for mining—the present one being used for tunneling purposes.

There is no better, safer or more permanently valuable enterprise than this in the world. In time it will pay 100 per cent. each year on the investment. Bonds sold only at par, counting interest from date of investment.

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Rooms 46, Pulitzer Bldg.,

March 10, 1891.

New York City.

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	United States, '72, 7c vermilion,	30	18
*349.	6c red on buff p. env.....		40
*	Dept. Justice, 1c pur.....	30	23
*	6c purple.....	25	20
*	12c purple.....	50	35
*	No. Mutual Telg. Co., 5c, 10c, 20c, 25c, red br. set of 4....		20
*929.	Horner, wr., 2c br.....	15	9
57.	Argentine, '90, 25c m'v'e.....		20
59.	'90, 60c black.....		25
*140.	'78 1c carmine wrap.....	5	3
*	'90, 1c on 12c blue, black sur'.	3	2
*	'90, 1c on 12c blue, red sur'...		3
	'90, 50c orange.....		25
	6c blk. on bluish p.....		5
171.	Austria, Italian prov, '63, 5s rose	10	5
215.	Levant, '88, 10par on 3kr green	4	3
217.	'88, 10pia on 10 kr blue.....	5	2
52.	Azores, '83, 10r green.....		10
*	Baden, '51-'57, 1kr, 3kr, 6kr, 9kr, 1kr, 3kr, 6kr, 3kr, the set 7	25	5 50
49.	Austria, '90, 15kr, car. & black.		3
50.	'90, 20kr olive green and black		4
*	" 10par on 3 kr. gr.....		4
*	Corea, '85-'86, 5m, 10m, 25m, 50m, 100m, the set.....	43	25
*	India, Alwur, '77, 1a blue....	4	2
* 7.	Bamra, '90, 1a blk., rose lilac p.		4
* 8.	'90, 1a blk., green p.....		5
* 15.	Bhopaul, '84, 1a blue green...	5	2
* 18.	'86, 1a green.....	5	2
* 2.	Holkar, '89, 1a br'ish mauve...	6	3
* 2.	Jhalawar, '90, 1a gr.....	6	3
* 5.	Jummoo Kashmir, '78, 1a red...	15	6
* 27.	Pountch, '87, 1a verm'. green wove batonne p.....	15	6
* 32.	'89, 1a verm', orange wove batonne p.....	4	3
* 4.	Sirmoor, '85, 6p gr.....	5	3
* 6.	'85, 2a carmine.....	18	10
*	Martinique, 05c on 40c blk on lav Paraguay, 1c green, off. blue sur' 2c red, off. red sur'.....		10
* 43.	Siam, '91, 2a on 3a gr. and blue		10
205.	Spain, 89, 4p carmine.....	15	7
* 48.	Western Aus., '90, 2p slate....	10	8
*	Bolivia, '76, 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, the set.....		1 75
27.	Bosnia, '85, 1n red, rev. used postally.....	35	15

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